

Claim Listing:

1. (amended) A candle, which creates pleasant crackling sounds, comprising:
a body of meltable fuel; and
a thin flat elongate wood or wood product wick disposed in the body and having an upper end extending above an upper surface of the body; and the body of the meltable fuel further comprises a gum or a resin, whereby when the wick is burned and consumes the meltable fuel, the apparatus creates pleasant crackling sounds.
2. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein wood grain of the wick is generally straight and vertical.
3. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wick has gum pockets.
4. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wood has a moisture content of ten to twelve percent.
5. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wood family of the wick is *Prunus Serotina*.
6. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the species of wood of the wick is Hardwood.
7. (original) The candle of claim 6 wherein the family of the wood of the wick is Cherry, Poplar, Maple, Birch, Beech, Basswood, Aspen, Yellow Buckeye or Oak.
8. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the species of the wood of the wick is Softwood.
9. (original) The candle of claim 8 wherein the family of the wood of the wick is Cedar, Spruce, Cypress, Pine, Pacific Yew, Silverbell or Witch Hazel.
10. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the species of the wood of the wick is Tropical Wood.
11. (original) The candle of claim 10 wherein the family of the wood of the wick is Rimo, Pillarwood, Wenge, Rosewood or Bamboo.

12. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wood of the wick has a moisture content of six to fourteen percent.

13. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the meltable fuel is petroleum (paraffin), mineral (montan), synthetic wax, clear candle waxes, or “gels”.

14. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the meltable fuel is a beeswax, carnauba, candelillia or vegetable-based wax.

15. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the meltable fuel includes at least one of stearic acids, UV inhibitors, polyethylene, scent oils, or color pigments.

16. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the meltable fuel is paraffin.

17. (original) The candle of claim 16 wherein the wick has a thickness of .019-.023 inch.

18. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the meltable fuel is a vegetable-based wax.

19. (original) The candle of claim 18 wherein the wick has a thickness of .022-.028 inch.

20. (original) The candle of claim 18 wherein primary components of the vegetable-based wax are palm and soy.

21. (original) The candle of claim 18 wherein primary components of the vegetable-based wax are selected from the group of palm, cotton, olive, linseed, castor, peanut, jojoba and soy.

22. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the meltable fuel is a mixture of paraffin and a vegetable-based wax.

23. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the body has a diameter of approximately one to six inches and the wick has a width of 1/8 to two inches.

24. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the body has a diameter of approximately six to twelve inches and the wick has a width of 1/8 - six inches.

25. (original) The candle of claim 24 wherein the number of the wicks in the candle is between one and twelve.

26. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the body has a diameter of approximately twelve to twenty-four inches and the wick has a width of 1/8 to twenty inches.

27. (original) The candle of claim 26 wherein the number of the wicks in the candle is between one and twenty.

28. (amended) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wood or wood product comprises two sheets of wood with a flat piece of cotton sandwiched there between.

29. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wick comprises pressed wood with bits of fiber and adhesive in the pressed wood.

30. (original) The candle of claim 30 wherein the fibers are cellulose materials, cotton, hemp, rayon, linen, paper and /or flax.

31. (original) The candle of claim 29 wherein the adhesive is resin, gum, or natural glue.

32. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the body is cylindrical and has a diameter of six inches and the wick is at the axial center of the body.

33. (original) The candle of claim 32 wherein the wick has a width of one and 1/4 inches.

34. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wick is sealed with wax.

35. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wick substantially comprises cellulose and lignin.

36. (**Presently amended**) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wick comprises wood particles and gum.

37. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wick is bleached.

38. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wick is dyed.

39. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wick has printed images.
40. (original) The candle of claim 38 wherein the meltable fuel is synthetic wax, clear candle waxes or “gels”.
41. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wick is configured in a selected decorative shape as viewed from above.
42. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wick is straight or curved vertically.
43. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the body is cylindrical, elliptic, orbicular, parallelepiped, polyhedron, or organic form and has a diameter of two to twelve inches and the wick is at the axial center of the body.
44. (original) The candle of claim 42 wherein the wick has a width of $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to six inches.
45. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the body is cylindrical, elliptic, orbicular, parallelepiped, polyhedron, or organic form and has a diameter of twelve to twenty-four inches and the wick is at the axial center of the body.
46. (original) The candle of claim 45 wherein the wick has a width of one inch to twelve inches.
47. (**Presently amended**) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wick has a thickness of [.019-028]
.019-.028 inch and a width of 1/8 to twelve inches.
48. (original) The wick of claim 46 wherein the primary thickness of the wick is .023 - .026 inch.
49. (original) The wick of claim 46 wherein the primary width of the wick is 3/16 to three inches.
50. (original) The candle of claim 47 wherein the wick has a height of 1/2 inch to four feet.
51. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wick has a height of one inch to six feet.
52. (original) The wick of claim 51 wherein the wick has a primary height of one to nine inches.

53. (original) The candle of claim 1 further comprising a wick holder in a base of the body, the wick holder having an elongate slot in which a lower end of the wick is received.

54. (original) The candle of claim 53 wherein the slot has a width of $\frac{1}{4}$ to twelve inches and a thickness of .018 to .03 inch.

55. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wick is rigid such as to be capable of being freestanding.

56. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wick is rigid such as to be capable of being vertically, flat comprising a wick holder.

57. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wood or wood product is a pressed wood particle/powder product or a high density fiberboard material.

58. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wick extends between 1/16 to 1/4 inch above the upper surface.

59. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the fuel is a paraffin-based fuel and the wick extends 1/8 inch above the upper surface.

60. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the fuel is a vegetable-based fuel and the wick extends 3/16 inch above the upper surface.

61. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein at least one of the body and the wick includes scented oil.

62. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wood or wood product is selected from the group of poplar, cherry, maple, wenge, oak, rosewood and bamboo.

63. (original) The candle of claim 1 wherein the wood or wood product has the wood grain thereof extending longitudinally on the wick.

64. (original) The candle of claim 1 further comprising a container having the body disposed therein.

65. (amended) An apparatus for amplifying pleasant crackling sounds while lighted comprising:
a body formed of a meltable fuel, the meltable fuel includes at least one additive of beeswax, palm wax, hard wax, carnauba, clear wax, “gel”, petroleum wax, stearic acids, UV inhibitors, polyethylene, and color pigments; and

a planar wood wick disposed in the body and having an upper end extending beyond an upper surface of the body, said planar wood wick having a fine to medium and uniform texture and a generally straight and even vertical grain, said wick comprises a non-perforated or a non-crushed wood, whereby said apparatus provides amplified pleasant crackling sounds.

66. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the meltable fuel is petroleum (paraffin) wax, mineral (montan) wax, synthetic wax, and clear candle waxes or “gels”.

67. (amended) The apparatus of claim 66 wherein the wick has a thickness of .019-0.23 inch.

68. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the meltable fuel is a beeswax, carnauba, candelilla or vegetable-based wax.

69. (**Second and presently amended**) The apparatus of claim 68 wherein the wick has a thickness of [.022-028] .022-.028 inch.

70. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick is rigid so as to be capable of being freestanding.

71. (canceled).

72. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick is made of poplar or cherry wood.

73. (canceled).

74. (canceled).

75. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick has a width of between 1/8 and 3 inches.

76. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick has a moisture content of between ten and twelve percent.

77. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick is made of a cotton and wood construction.

78. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick has a width of approximately 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches and the body has a diameter of approximately six inches.

79. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick extends between 1/16 and 3/16 inch above the upper surface.

80. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick extends 1/8 inch above the upper surface.

81. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the fuel is paraffin.

82. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the fuel is a vegetable-based wax.

83. (**Second and presently amended**) The apparatus of claim 82 wherein primary components of the vegetable-based wax are palm, cotton, olive, linseed, castor, peanut, jojoba and soy.

84. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the planar wick is formed of unwoven, fibrous material.

85. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick is sized relative to the body to correlate the wick's burn rate with the material of the body to thereby provide an even depletion of the meltable fuel.

86. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick comprises wood.

87. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the melttable fuel is a mixture of paraffin and a vegetable-based wax.

88. (canceled).

89. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the body has a diameter of approximately one to six inches and the wick has a width of 1/8 to two inches.

90. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the body has a diameter of approximately six to twelve inches and the wick has a width of 1/8 - six inches.

91. (amended) The apparatus of claim 90 wherein the number of the wicks in the candle is between one and twelve.

92. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the body has a diameter of approximately twelve to twenty-four inches and the wick has a width of 1/8 - twenty inches.

93. (amended) The apparatus of claim 92 wherein the number of wicks in the apparatus is between one and twenty.

94. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the planar wick comprises two sheets of wood with a flat piece of cotton sandwiched there between.

95. (canceled).

96. (amended) The apparatus of wick of claim 95 wherein the fibers are cellulose materials, cotton, hemp, rayon, linen, paper and /or flax.

97. (amended) The apparatus of claim 95 wherein the adhesive is resin, gum, or natural glue.

98. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the exterior of the wick is sealed with wax.

99. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick is largely of cellulose and lignin.

100. (canceled).

101. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wood of the wick is selected from a group consisting of poplar, cherry, maple, wenge, oak, rosewood, and bamboo.
102. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick is made of wood combined with cotton.
103. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick is made of wood bonded with natural adhesives or resins.
104. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick is made from trees or shrubs and consists substantially of cellulose and lignin.
105. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick is made from leaves or bark and consists substantially of cellulose and lignin.
106. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick has indicia printed on a flat surface thereof.
107. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick is bleached or dyed.
108. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick is curved vertically.
109. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick comprises a rigid, solid sheet material consisting substantially of cellulose and lignin.
110. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 further comprising a wick holder which holds the wick.
111. (amended) The apparatus of claim 110 wherein the wick holder includes a base and a slotted support for receiving the wick extending from the base.
112. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 further comprising a container in which the body is disposed.

113. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick is configured in a decorative shape as viewed from above.

114. (amended) The apparatus of claim 65 wherein the wick has a width greater than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch, is rigid so as to be capable of being freestanding and is made at least substantially of wood or cellulose/lignin material.

115. (amended) A candle comprising:

a body formed of a meltable fuel; and

a planar wick disposed in the body and having an upper end extending beyond an upper surface of the body, and the wick has indicia printed on a flat surface thereof.

116. (original) The candle of claim 115 wherein at least one of the body and the wick includes scented oil.

117. (original) The candle of claim 115 further comprising a wick holder having a base and a support for receiving a bottom end of the wick.

118. (canceled).

119. (amended) A method of making a candle, which creates amplified crackling sounds, comprising:

combining a planar wood or wood product wick and a body of meltable fuel such that the planar wick extends beyond an upper surface of the body, and the body of meltable fuel further comprises a gum, a resin or a hard wax.

120. (original) The method of claim 119 wherein the combining includes maintaining the wick in a set position and dispensing the meltable fuel about the wick in a non-solid form and allowing the dispensed meltable fuel to solidify.

121. (cancel).

122. (amended) The method of claim 119 wherein the wood is selected from a group consisting of poplar, cherry, maple, wenge, oak, rosewood, and bamboo.

123. (amended) The method of claim 119 wherein the wood has a moisture content of 10-12 percent.

124. (original) The method of claim 119 further comprising setting the wick in a wick holder.

125. (CANCEL).

126. (CANCEL).

127. (CANCEL).

128. (CANCEL).

129. (CANCEL).

130. (CANCEL).

131. (CANCEL).

132. (CANCEL).

133. (CANCEL).

134. (CANCEL).

135. (CANCEL).

136. (CANCEL).

137. (Canceled).

138. (Canceled).

139. (Canceled).

140. (Canceled).

141. (Canceled).

142. (Canceled).

143. (Canceled).

144. (Canceled).

145. (Canceled).

146. (Canceled).

147. (Canceled).

148. (Canceled).

149. (Canceled).

150. (Canceled).

151. (Canceled).

152. (Canceled).

153. (Canceled).

154. (Canceled).

155. (Canceled).

156. (Canceled).

157. (Canceled).